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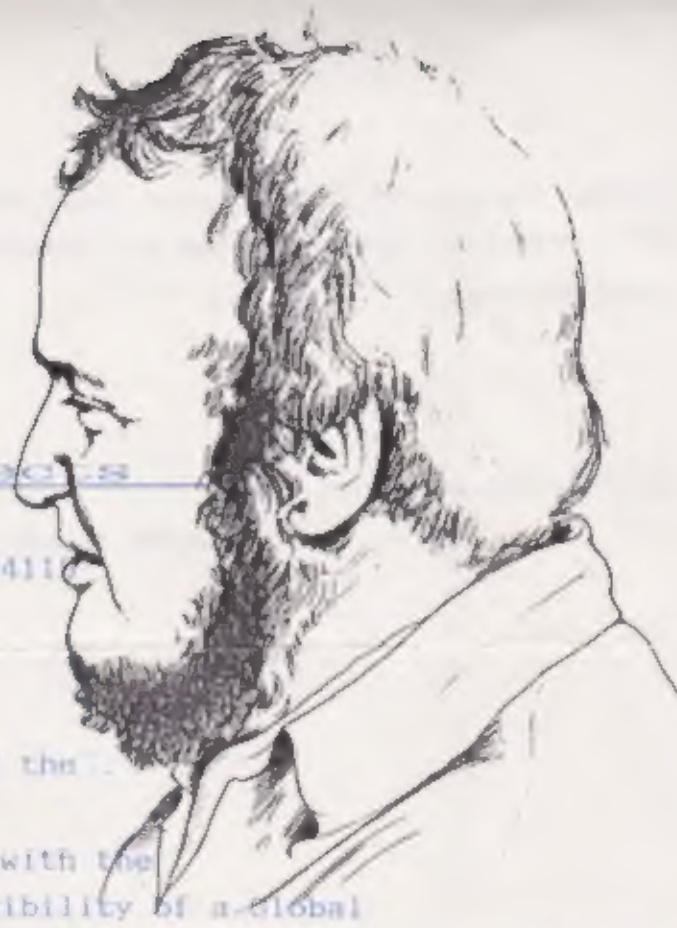
Dear Joel,

a few hours ago Jean Darrax of the American Musical Theatre Festival and I completed negotiating an initial contract with the Soviet Copyright Agency /VAAP/ on the feasibility of a Global Celebration of the New Year using the facilities on the Old Arbat pedestrian mall and the huge screen on Dec. 31, 1986. It is now clear that VAAP is the only Soviet organisation where my proposal can win formal approval and <sup>to be</sup> considered as a real work /and not as a vision, dream, whatever/.

The best way the US side in collaboration with us can get the project off the ground at this time is for US side to make a formal request for a detailed treatment and script for the Event through VAAP. I will do the script and Yuri will translate it with the US side paying for the script to VAAP. This will give me a legal excuse for enlisting the support of any other relevant Soviet organisations which will execute the project logistically and in other ways.

But I can start moving ahead <sup>now</sup> to coordinate the efforts of the various organisations provided the US side makes a formal request to VAAP for a script and makes an advance payment of \$1000 for it. On completion of the final manuscript negotiations on the final payment will be resolved.

There are several of the US organisations that can potentially be involved in the proposed Event and help sponsor the initial stage of the project financially, eg. Holyearth Foundation, EST, Center for Soviet-American Dialog, Wilson Learning Co., AA, etc. I invite you to help Jean to coordinate preparations for the Global Event on the US side. I have a feeling that I have completed an important phase in networking a critical mass of individuals in our two countries to create feasible global event. The main challenge before me now is to create a



script that will capture the imagination of all fellow-networkers. I trust Jean will create a space for me to concentrate all my resources to **make** a convincing message.

In friends we trust

Joseph Gaidin

Moscow, May 13, 1986